

July 4th

BY GEORGE FITCH.
Author of "At Good Old Swash."

THIS is the Fourth day of July and the birthday anniversary of our great and victorious republic. Not all nations are fortunate enough to have birthday anniversaries. Most of the older ones have existed so long that their age is more uncertain than that of an actress who is a grandmother. But we are a young country and can remember back distinctly 138 years to the day when we stopped being a bunch of colonies and became at one stroke of the pen a brand new nation with hundreds of years of magnificent future before us and \$1.34 in the treasury.

The American patriots were hasty people. They declared themselves free first and proved it afterwards. They celebrated the first Independence day by bombarding the British for about five years before they could make them see the point. This is probably why the Fourth of July has been celebrated by bombardments ever since.

In 1863 Gen. Grant celebrated the nation's birthday anniversary by taking Vicksburg and Gen. Meade by winning the battle of Gettysburg. In 1898 Admiral Schley sank the Spanish fleet in honor of the great day. Just what will happen to the Mexicans today is uncertain, but they ought to worry. The Fourth of July has been equally weather for enemies of the republic.

On odd years Americans celebrate the Glorious Fourth by blowing each other up. One large dynamite cracker if skillfully used, will blow up two patriots. And one cap pistol has been known to exterminate as many as three small boys. Of late years it has been felt that burnt offerings on the Fourth of July are a little too uncivilized and the great day is gradually becoming less fatal.

Americans ought to celebrate their nation's birthday anniversary by read-



"One large dynamite cracker, if skillfully used, will blow up two patriots."

ing of those who gave their lives in order to establish this nation. A short course of such reading ought to make almost any citizen willing to sacrifice a few dollars now and then if necessary, in order to keep this country clean and honest and worth dying for when the necessity arises.—Copyright by George Matthew Adams.

ABE MARTIN



What's become of the old fashioned feller who was willin' to begin at the bottom?

Tilford Moot says he never gambled in his life, 'cept he raised two boys.

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What Are the Wild Waves Saying?

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By Nell Brinkley

Angora Goats With Fleece Of Silver
Supply Good Substitute For Human HairBy
Rene Bache

Will Yield 5,000,000 Pounds of Wool This Year; Breeding of Angoras Becomes Important Industry in United States.

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 4.—With a total output of 5,000,000 pounds estimated by government authority for the present year, the wool of the angora goat may be said to have assumed rank as one of the important commercial products of the United States.

The wonderful new wigs for women—green wigs, purple wigs, sky-blue wigs, etc.—are made not of human hair, but of angora. Indeed, the lustrous fleece of this animal is commonly employed in the manufacture of curls and switches; and many a fashionable woman today, without being at all aware of the fact, adorns her head with goat's wool.

Angora fleeces are utilized in the weaving of some of the finest dress goods and other textiles which, under the names of "mohair," "alpaca," etc., furnish clothing for hundreds of thousands of people in this country. They are also employed for baby carriage blankets, for gloves, in the very clever imitation of some furs, and in the manufacture of brushes for the seats of railway passenger cars. So admirably does the wool shed water that its use has been suggested for the weaving of raincoats and sailcloth. Largely on this account, considerable quantities of it are consumed in the making of automobile tops.

Famous in Days of Moses. The angora was originally a wild species of goat native to Persia, and was raised for its wool in the Angora district, among the Taurus mountains, in Asia Minor, long before the time of Moses. The ancient Israelites spun its fleece for clothing. It is a beautiful creature, with short legs and wide-spreading, spirally twisted horns. The

wool, silvery white in color, is curled or wavy, and arranged in long ringlets over its whole body. Very clean in its habits, the animal makes a charming pet.

Thirty-three years ago the Turkish government decided to prohibit the exportation of these goats, and the regulation was very strictly enforced. Hereafter this happened, however, a number of angoras of highest lineage had been brought to the United States, and at the present time much of the mohair (as the fleece is commercially called) produced in this country is as good as any grown in Asia Minor or South Africa—the two greatest sources of the world's supply.

California Smuggles Goats. A few years ago, W. C. Bailey, of San Jose, Cal., paid a visit to Anatolia, Turkey for the purpose of trying to procure four purebred angora bucks. It was easy enough to buy the animals, but to get them out of the country was the difficulty. Having obtained four choice ones, he cut off their fleeces and managed to transport them over a distance of some hundred miles—first on muleback, later on in a close carriage, and finally on men's backs, concealed in sacks.

When he reached Constantinople, Mr. Bailey got his goats across the Bosphorus by hiding them under a load of hay. Then, after disguising them as black sheep, by sprinkling them with coal dust, he drove them in an open wagon through the Turkish capital. On his way through the streets he was stopped three times by officials and policemen, but in each instance a judicious bestowal of "bakshish" enabled him to proceed. Not until he was at last on board of an American steamship moving out of the port of Stambul did he feel that his angoras were safe.

The average weight of the angora

goat's fleece is 3 1/2 to 4 pounds for one year's growth, when it is something like 18 inches long. On the bodies of pure bred animals it sometimes attains a length of 24 inches. It is the very long mohair which is in demand at high prices as a substitute for human hair. Kids, young wethers and does furnish the best wool. As the goats grow older, the fleece becomes coarser and gradually loses its luster and curl. Angoras bred in the United States are nearly always pure white, though once in a while a black one appears.

The "big money" is in the producing of high quality mohair, and not inferior grades. One buck shown not long ago in Kansas City yielded 16 pounds of 20 inch fleeces at a shearing, and the wool alone was sold for \$50. For good mohair there is always a ready sale. Even the short hair of inferior quality finds a quick market, being utilized largely in the manufacture of brushes.

Clipped by Machinery. The animal is so clean that its fleece does not have to be washed before being cut off, like sheep's wool. A machine has been devised that clips 10 goats an hour. The hair is packed in sacks and sold in commission dealers, who dispose of it to the mill.

The department of agriculture says that angoras should flourish in almost any part of the United States. The cold weather does them no harm, if dry. Even in Montana they are undaunted by the heaviest snowfalls. If a dry shelter is provided for them at night, but they are deadly to them, and they will run for miles to escape a rain-storm.

The very young kids have to be protected against cold, but when they are two or three weeks old, they will frolic in the snow and sleep comfortably in an open shed. For the first two or three days the young ones are more delicate than lambs, and when born

on the range, they must be cared for immediately, special pains being taken to see that their mothers acknowledge them.

Should Have Free Range. Angoras should have free range or wide pasture; they do not like restraint. Some shelter from the sun they need in hot weather, such as afforded preferably by large trees. They are browsing animals, feeding on leaves and short twigs. If there be not enough of such food, grain should be supplied, oats being best. In Texas cottonseed is fed to them largely. Corn fodder, clover and alfalfa hay are the best provender for angoras in the winter time. Finally, it must not be forgotten that they need rock salt, of which a big lump should be provided for them to lick.

It is estimated that in the northwest there are 2,000,000 acres of logged off land which could be profitably converted into home-steads with the help of angoras. From two to five goats per acre are required for three to four years to clear up such land. How far they are effective in this kind of work may be judged from the fact that the interurban railroad between Tacoma and Seattle has recently bought a bunch of angoras to keep its right of way clean and attractive.

In the forests of southern California angoras are used to keep the fire-breaks clear of weeds and grass. Such fire-breaks are strips of cleared land which follow ridges through the woods and serve to check the spread of fires. They are of little value unless all growth on them is kept down for grass and weeds dry up in California summers, and readily carry flames across the clearings. Goats feed down and do the work of gangs of laborers. In this way the government payroll is kept down, and the goat owners have free grazing for their flocks.

Not Afraid of Dogs. A notable advantage possessed by angoras is that, unlike sheep, they are able to defend themselves against dogs. In fact, it is said that a few of them in a flock of sheep will protect the flock.

In Tibet and northern India is domesticated a smaller variety of angora, which is known as the "shawl goat," because it supplies the material out of which the famous cashmere shawls are made. The animal in winter has an undercoat of delicate wool, slightly greenish in color, which after bleaching with rice flour, is spun into thread, to be dyed and woven. On each goat there are only two or three ounces of this underwool, so that 10 goats will furnish just about enough of it to make a shawl 4 1/2 feet square. The price it fetches is proportionately high, and herders of shawl goats actually gather bits of it from bushes in which it has become entangled.

Some years ago, the department of agriculture took into consideration a project for importing into the United States for breeding purposes. It was decided, however, that in view of the smallness of the yield of wool such a step was hardly worth while.

Sweden and Norway to
Form Defensive Alliance;
Fear Russian Aggression

Stockholm, Sweden, July 4.—The campaign for an alliance between Norway and Sweden continues without a dissenting note. Prominent politicians of all parties are advocating such a course on the public platforms, and in the newspapers. The movement, however, still lacks any official action.

Even Hedin, the Swedish explorer, and Sigurd Isen, have exchanged visits between Stockholm and Christiania, and each has found public sentiment agreeable to the proposed alliance. The friendship between the two countries, which has been smoothed out to the extent at least that both peoples desire to unite in a defensive alliance against possible Russian aggression.

The increase in the army and navy of Sweden, instead of exciting the concern of Norway, is greeted there with the utmost satisfaction. It is said, and Norway itself has a strong movement underway for an increase in armaments. In his lecture here, he has argued that the two foreign offices and the general staffs should have some formal arrangements for working together in case of war.

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WHY A SOCIETY GIRL
CHOSE THE STAGE

As Told By Miss Carree Clark.



MISS CARREE CLARK.

BY MAUDE MULLER.
"WHAT I have to say," said pretty Miss Carree Clark, of the "Pair of Sixes" company, "is not so much against the society girl; that would hardly be fair. But let us put it this way: I want to talk about the great advantages the independent girl has over her dependent sister. I could have chosen society myself if I had wanted to be hemmed in by the narrow round of things that most society girls live for. Texas, luncheon, dinner, occasionally a boring talk with a bored youth who has probably put himself out to the extent of paying a party call."

"None of the free, untrammelled ways of life, but everything hemmed in by narrow conventionality. Society is in itself judged as a whole because of necessity each and every girl lives exactly the same kind of life. But every girl who decides to do something, who keeps her mind busy with the bigger, more progressive part of life, who has the courage to fight out a way to her own self respect, even though her name is never known outside of her own little circle of friends, is nevertheless an individual."

"Nowadays a girl must do something to be progressive or she will stand still."

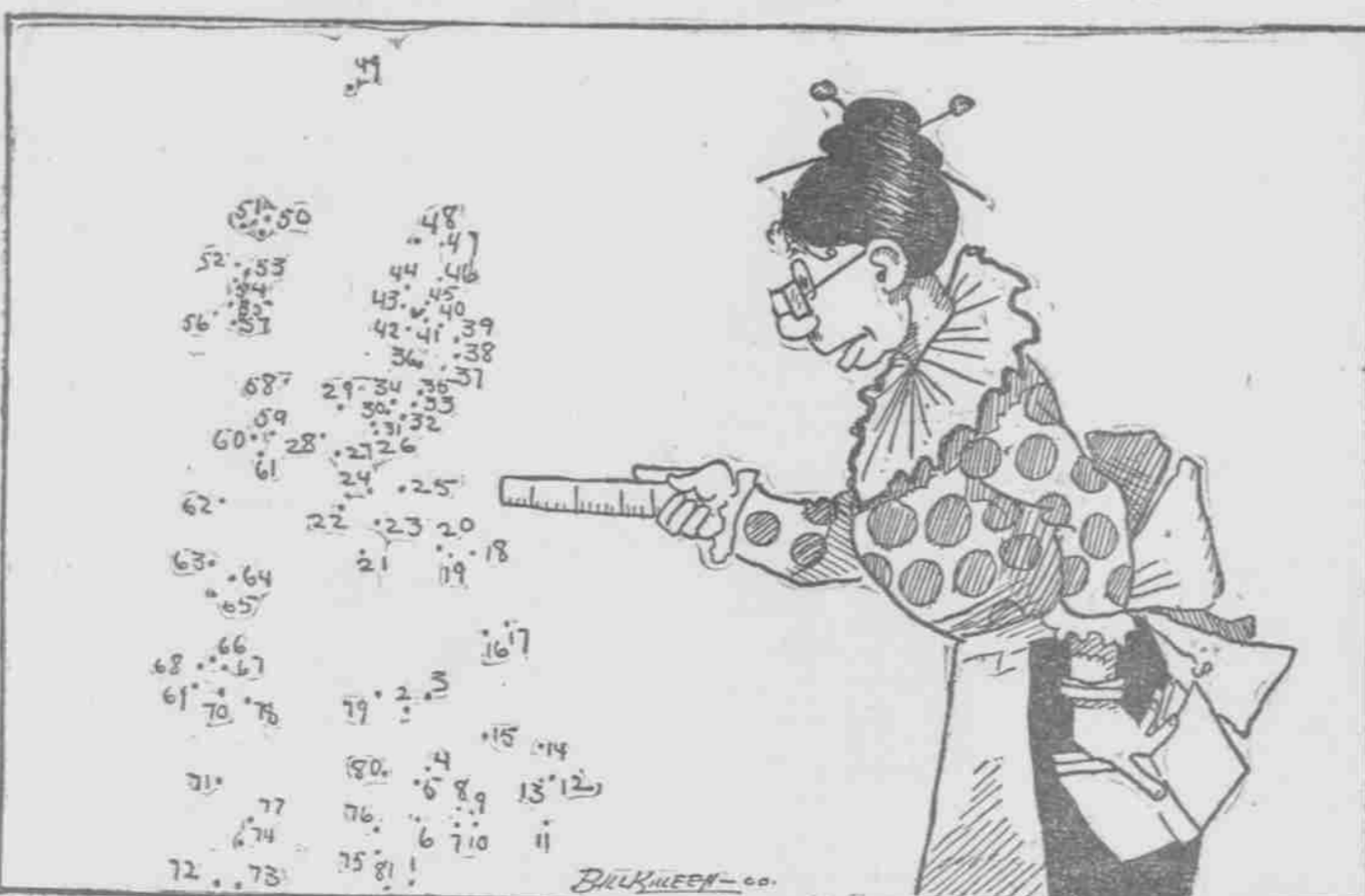
and let the world slip by without her. Society in creating its ideal girl would do better if it made her less of a snob and more competent to meet situations other than those she comes in contact with every day. But society says, 'What's the use? If a girl lives within the sacred precinct, that in itself is enough to protect her; there is no necessity in preparing her for crises she may never meet.'

"Leave that to the girl who must of necessity fight the world. Yes, and leave all the big, worth-while things to the independent girl, even the finer, better men she meets outside the pale of society. No wonder there is nothing left for the society girl but to content herself within her own small territory."

"I contend that the girl who has lived in constant contact with the world, whether of necessity or choice, is better equipped in every way to meet problems, and having conquered them, to live capable of feeling emotions and probing depths that the society girl never even dreamed existed. It is rather an unfair division of conditions, I agree, but daily there are girls refusing to live the idle life of the wealthy, and with bigger ideals beckoning them on, go out into the world to seek and find the real meaning of life."

"Life knows how to teach the deeper lessons to the right kind of a girl, to mold her on a grander plan, to help her work out for herself a perfect destiny. And yet society says that girls should be shielded. Shielded, yes, but not cramped for existence as nearly every society girl of today undoubtedly is."

MAYBE HE'LL LEARN NOW



Complete the picture by drawing a pencil line between the dots, starting at No. 1 and taking them numerically.